

## Message Text

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UNCLAS STATE 176101

FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY FROM BRIZILL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN)

SUBJECT: DAILY PRESS SUMMARY - JULY 27, 1977

TRANSMITTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION IS SUMMARY OF SELECT  
ARTICLES WHICH APPEARED IN NATIONAL PRESS.

1. NEW YORK TIMES, JULY 27, "US MAY SELL CAIRO MILITARY  
CRAFT" BY BERNARD GWERTZMAN.

QUOTE THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, IN A SHOW OF SUPPORT FOR  
PRESIDENT ANWAR EL-SADAT, PRIVATELY INFORMED KEY MEMBERS  
OF CONGRESS TODAY THAT IT WOULD LIKE TO SELL EGYPT MORE  
THAN \$200 MILLION IN MILITARY RECONNAISSANCE AND TRANSPORT  
PLANES.

THE UNITED STATES ALSO INDICATED IT WAS WILLING TO JOIN  
OTHER NATIONS IN PROVIDING MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA.  
.....ACCORDING TO STATE DEPARTMENT AND CONGRESSIONAL  
SOURCES, THE ADMINISTRATION, AS PART OF AN INFORMAL  
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"CONSULTATIVE" PROCESS, HAS INFORMED CONGRESS THAT IT WOULD  
LIKE TO SELL EGYPT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: FOURTEEN C-130  
HERCULES MILITARY TRANSPORTS,....VALUED AT ABOUT \$180  
MILLION. TWELVE PILOTLESS RECONNAISSANCE DRONE AIRCRAFT  
WORTH ABOUT \$30 MILLION.....SIX SOPHISTICATED RECONNAIS-  
SANCE CAMERAS.....THIS PACKAGE WOULD COST EGYPT \$7 MILLION.  
EGYPTIAN MILITARY OFFICERS WOULD BE TRAINED AT STAFF-  
LEVEL SCHOOLS HERE -- AT A COST OF \$100,000.....END QUOTE

2. NEW YORK TIMES, JULY 27, "US OFFERS AN ALTERNATIVE

SOURCE OF ARMS TO SOMALIA" BY GRAHAM HOVEY.

QUOTE THE UNITED STATES IS READY TO JOIN OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN PROVIDING MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR SOMALIA TO REDUCE ITS LONG-STANDING RELIANCE ON THE SOVIET UNION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

A SPOKESMAN SAID AMERICAN ARMS WOULD BE EARMARKED FOR THE DEFENSE OF SOMALIA'S PRESENT TERRITORY AND COULD NOT BE USED BY SOMALI GUERRILLAS FIGHTING TO DETACH THE OGADEN REGION FROM ETHIOPIA.

HODDING CARTER 3D, THE SPOKESMAN, SAID THE DECISION WAS NOT LINKED TO UNCONFIRMED REPORTS EARLIER THIS MONTH THAT MOSCOW WAS WITHDRAWING ITS MILITARY ADVISERS FROM SOMALIA, BUT HE ADDED:

"WE DO THINK IT IS DESIRABLE THAT SOMALIA KNOWS IT DOES NOT HAVE TO DEPEND ON THE SOVIET UNION BUT CAN OBTAIN ARMS FROM OTHER SOURCES." .....

EVEN LIMITED ARMS AID WOULD REPRESENT A DRAMATIC TURNAROUND FOR WASHINGTON'S POLICY TOWARD THE HORN OF AFRICA, PARALLEL-UNCLASSIFIED

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ING A POLITICAL REALIGNMENT OF THE NATIONS IN THAT REGION.

THE UNITED STATES LONG MAINTAINED CLOSE POLITICAL AND MILITARY TIES WITH ETHIOPIA, TRAINING AND EQUIPPING EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE'A ARMED FORCES AND SUPPORTING ERITREA AND SOMALI INSURGENTS IN THE OGA- (SIC) HIS EFFORTS TO PUT DOWN SECESSIONISTS IN THE OGADEN REGION....

AS A RESULT OF SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA, SOMALIA HAS BEEN CASTING ABOUT IN RECENT MONTHS FOR ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF MILITARY SUPPLIES. AMERICAN SPECIALISTS BELIEVE THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS PUT ITS FACILITIES IN SOMALIA IN JEOPARDY BY ITS ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA.....  
END QUOTE.

3. BALTIMORE SUN, JULY 27, EDITORIAL ENTITLED "UNSETTLEMENTS"

QUOTE THE APPROVAL BY THE NEW ISRAELI GOVERNMENT OF THREE JEWISH SETTLEMENTS IN THE OCCUPIED WEST BANK OF JORDAN MAKES A MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT MORE DIFFICULT. IT SLOWS SOME OF THE MOMENTUM TOWARD AN OCTOBER CONFERENCE THAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED BY PRIME MINISTER MENAHEM BEGIN

WHILE IN WASHINGTON.....

THAT SAID, LET IT BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE ACTION BY AN ISRAELI CABINET COMMITTEE MERELY LEGITIMIZES EXISTING

FACTS. THESE SETTLEMENTS WERE IN PLACE, DESPITE OPPOSITION OF THE PREVIOUS LABOR GOVERNMENT. THERE WAS NEVER ANY DOUBT THAT MR. BEGIN WAS SYMPATHETIC TO THESE SETTLEMENTS, BEFORE AND AFTER ISRAEL'S ELECTION AND NEVER ANY PROSPECT OF HIS MOVING AGAINST THEM.

IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAT MR. BEGIN'S GOVERNMENT RESTRAIN FURTHER SETTLEMENT PENDING PEACE TALKS.....

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THE ARABS HAVE TO SHOW THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN A GENUINE PEACE, BUT SO DOES ISRAEL..... END QUOTE.

4. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, JULY 27, "SRI LANKA'S LIVELY DEMOCRACY"

QUOTE IT IS GOOD TO SEE THAT DEMOCRACY IS ALIVE AND WELL IN THE SMALL ISLAND REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA.....

SOME SEE THE RESOUNDING DEFEAT OF SIRIMAVO BANDARANAIKE, WHO HAS RULED SINCE 1971, AS A MINI-REPLAY OF THE OUSTER OF INDIRA GANDHI IN INDIA. BUT THE PARALLEL IS OVERDRAWN. THE FACT IS, MRS. BANDARANAIKE REFUSED TO POSTPONE ELECTIONS EVEN THOUGH SHE KNEW SHE WAS IN DEEP POLITICAL TROUBLE. TO HAVE GONE AHEAD DESPITE THE WARNINGS OF HER ADVISERS IS TO HER CREDIT, WHICH IS NOT TO SUGGEST THAT HER EMERGENCY RULE, IMPOSED AFTER A DANGEROUS YOUTH INSURGENCY, WAS WITHOUT ITS HEAVY-HANDED ASPECTS.....

THE IMPORTANT THING TO NOTE AT THIS JUNCTURE IS THAT SRI LANKA HAS AGAIN DEMONSTRATED THAT IT IS A FUNCTIONING DEMOCRACY AND IT IS WELL FOR THE WEST TO BE REMINDED OF THAT.

5. WASHINGTON POST, JULY 27, "THE TRAGEDY OF CAMBODIA" BY MURRAY MARDER.

QUOTE CARTER ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS YESTERDAY BLAMED CAMBODIA'S COMMUNIST RULERS FOR ONE OF THE WORLD'S WORST CONTINUING TRAGEDIES OF DISEASE AND HUNGER, AFTER A SURGE OF POLITICAL EXECUTIONS FOLLOWING THE AMERICAN DEPARTURE IN APRIL 1975.....

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE RICHARD C. HOLBROOKE, TOLD A HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE HEADED BY REP. DONALD FRASER (D-MINN.) THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GIVE ANY "PRECISE FIGURE," OR EVEN AN ACCURATE ESTIMATE, ON THE DEATHS IN CAMBODIA.....

HOLBROOKE SAID, "BASED ON ALL THE EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO US, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT CAMBODIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE FLAGRANTLY AND SYSTEMATICALLY VIOLATED THE MOST BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS."

"THEY HAVE ORDERED OR PERMITTED EXTENSIVE KILLINGS," HE SAID, "FORCIBLY RELOCATED THE URBAN POPULATION; BRUTALLY TREATED SUPPORTERS OF THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT, AND SUPPRESSED PERSONAL AND POLITICAL FREEDOMS."

HOLBROOKE SAID THAT "MY GUESS....IS THAT FOR EVERY PERSON EXECUTED, SEVERAL HAVE DIED OF DISEASE OR MALNUTRITION OR OTHER FACTORS, WHICH WERE AVOIDABLE IF THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF HAD NOT FOLLOWED THE KIND OF POLICY.....WHICH SEEKS TO COMPLETELY TRANSFORM A SOCIETY BY APPLYING PURELY DRACONIAN MEASURES."

AFTER HEARING THE WITNESSES, THE SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVED A RESOLUTION FOR HOUSE ACTION DEPLORING "THE CONTINUING DISREGARD FOR BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING ATROCITIES AND KILLINGS, OF THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA."

THE RESOLUTION CALLS ON PRESIDENT CARTER TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER NATIONS, THROUGH SUCH FORUMS AS THE UNITED NATIONS, TO END "FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS" IN CAMBODIA.....

6. WASHINGTON POST, JULY 27, EDITORIAL ENTITLED  
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"ARMS BUSINESS AS USUAL."

QUOTE IN 1972 PRESIDENT NIXON SECRETLY GAVE IRAN VIRTUAL CARTE BLANCHE TO BUY THE ARMS OF ITS CHOICE. SCARCELY A YEAR LATER, OPEC'S QUINTUPLING OF OIL PRICES PUT INTO THE SHAH'S HANDS THE MONEY TO BUY THE QUANTITIES OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS HE HAS BEEN AMASSING RELENTLESSLY SINCE. CAMPAIGNING FOR PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER DECRIED PROFLIGATE AMERICAN ARMS SALES. IN THE WHITE HOUSE, HE DECLARED HE WOULD VIEW ARMS SALES "AS AN EXCEPTIONAL FOREIGN POLICY IMPLEMENT TO BE USED ONLY IN INSTANCES WHERE IT CAN BE CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THAT THE TRANSFER CONTRIBUTES TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS." PUTTING HIS POLICY INTO EFFECT IN RESPECT TO IRAN, HE DECIDED NOT TO SELL THE F-18.

HE HAS PERSISITED, HOWEVER, IN PUSHING THE SALE OF AN ELEGANT AIRBORNE RADAR SYSTEM CALLED AWACS (AIRBORN WARNING

AND CONTROL SYSTEM). IRAN WANTS SEVEN AT A COST OF \$1.2 BILLION. EVIDENTLY THE ADMINISTRATION FEELS THAT

AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH IRAN CANNOT EARILY STAND THE STRAIN OF CANCELING AWACS. MOREOVER, THERE IS STRONG PENTAGON PRESSURE TO RECAPTURE BY EXPORTS SOME OF THE HUGE DEVELOPMENTS COSTS (\$2.8 BILLION). NATO IS GAGGING ON THE PRICE. HENCE THE DRIVE TO SELL TO IRAN.

IT'S A PITY BECAUSE ON THE MERITS THE ADMINISTRATION'S CASE IS WEAK. THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGREES THAT THE TECHNOLOGY COULD LEAK, WITH DAMAGING RESULTS, TO THE RUSSIANS. THE NEED FOR AMERICANS TO MAN THE SYSTEM COULD CONCEIVABLY SUCK THE UNITED STATES INTO UNWANTED TROUBLE. SINCE THE SYSTEM LETS YOU CONTROL UNCLASSIFIED

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YOUR FIGHTER AIRCRAFT AS WELL AS DETECT ENEMY MISSILES, ITS SALE UNDERCUTS THE FORMAL CARTER PLEDGE NOT TO INTRODUCE INTO A REGION A WEAPONS SYSTEM CREATING "A NEW OR SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER COMBAT CAPABILITY." IRAQ OR SAUDI ARABIA COULD REPLY BY ESCALATING THEIR OWN MILITARY PREPARATIONS.....THE ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT SATISFACTORILY ANSWERED THE QUESTIONS THAT OVERHANG THIS TRANSACTION. SAID THE PRESIDENT ON MAY 19: "THE BURDEN OF PERSUASION WILL BE ON THOSE WHO FAVOR A PARTICULAR ARMS SALE, RATHER THAN THOSE WHO OPPOSE IT."

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER ROBERT BYRD OFFERED THE ADMINISTRATION A GRACIOUS ESCAPE FROM A COLLISION WITH CONGRESS. CITING THE PRESS OF SENATE BUSINESS AND THE NON-URGENCY OF THE AWACS SALE, HE SUGGESTED THAT THE PRESIDENT WAIT AWHILE. BUT MR. CARTER SAID NO. SO A BRUISING BATTLE IS COMING. CONSERVATIVES AS WELL AS LIBERALS ARE AROUSED. FOR THE SALE TO BE BLOCKED, BOTH HOUSES MUST DISAPPROVE BY AUGUST 5. WE HOPE THEY DO. THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD UNDERSTAND IN ANY EVENT THAT ITS STAND HAS FUELED A CONGRESSIONAL DRIVE TO CHANGE THE LAW TO MAKE IT EASIER TO BLOCK FUTURE SALES. END QUOTE

7. LOS ANGELES TIMES, JULY 27, "US PROTESTS ISRAELI APPROVAL FOR CAMPS"

QUOTE THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION TUESDAY PROTESTED ISRAEL'S MOVE TO LEGITIMIZE THREE PREVIOUSLY ILLEGAL SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED ARAB LAND WITH A SHARP STATEMENT DECLARING THE U.S. GOVERNMENT "DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED" BY THE ACTION.

IT DELIVERED DIPLOMATIC COMPLAINTS TO THE ISRAELIS HERE AND IN JERUSALEM.

READING A STATEMENT CLEARED PERSONALLY BY SECRETARY OF UNCLASSIFIED

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STATE CYRUS R. VANCE, STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN  
HODDING CARTER III NOTED THE LONG-STANDING U.S.  
OPPOSITION TO ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORY  
AND WARNED THAT SUCH STEPS "CONSTITUTE AN OBSTACLE TO THE  
PEACEMAKING PROCESS."

THUS THE WELL-PUBLICIZED HONEYMOON BETWEEN PRESIDENT CARTER  
AND ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER MENAHEM BEGIN, CAREFULLY  
EMPHASIZED IN WHITE HOUSE STATEMENTS STRESSING THE PER-  
SONAL RAPPORT THE TWO MEN ACHIEVED IN MEETINGS LAST WEEK,  
APPEARED TO BE DISSIPATING ALMOST AS SOON AS IT WAS PRO-  
CLAIMED.

SOME KNOWLEDGEABLE OBSERVERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S  
MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORTS WERE SKEPTICAL LAST WEEK OF  
CARTER'S OPTIMISM THAT "THE GROUNDWORK HAS BEEN LAID"  
FOR AN ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE CONFERENCE, NOTING THAT THE  
SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ISRAELI AND ADMINISTRA-  
TION POLICIES SEEMED TOO GREAT TO OVERCOME EASILY.

NOW THOSE SKEPTICS APPEARED VINDICATED, BARELY TWO DAYS  
AFTER BEGIN'S RETURN TO ISRAEL. U.S. OFFICIALS AGREED  
PRIVATELY, DELCARING THEMSELVES "BAFFLED" THAT THE  
ISRAELIS SHOULD TAKE SUCH A STEP SO SOON AFTER THE  
DELIBERATE EFFORT DURING THE BEGIN VISIT TO SUBMERGE  
DIFFERENCES AND AVOID A CONFRONTATION OVER POLICY.....  
END QUOTE.

8. WASHINGTON POST, JULY 24, "POLAND FREES NINE  
DISSIDENTS" BY CHRISTOPHER BOBINSKI

QUOTE THE POLISH GOVERNMENT TODAY RELEASED NINE MEMBERS  
AND SYMPATHIZERS OF THE DISSIDENT WORKERS DEFENSE  
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COMMITTEE SET UP LAST SEPTEMBER TO AID WORKERS  
IMPRISONED AND DISMISSED AFTER LAST SUMMER'S DEMONSTRA-  
TIONS AGAINST FOOD PRICE INCREASES.

THE RELEASES CAME UNDER A CLAUSE IN A NATIONAL DAY  
AMNESTY THAT FREED CRIMINAL OFFENDERS SERVING PRISON  
TERMS OF UP TO ONE YEAR AND DISCONTINUED INVESTIGATIONS  
IN CASES WHERE THE ALLEGED OFFENSE CALLED FOR A TWO-YEAR  
TERM.

THE RELEASES CAME AFTER PROTESTS BY POLISH INTELLEC-  
TUALS AND STUDENTS, AND MORE PROTESTS WERE EXPECTED IN  
THE AUTUMN FROM STUDENTS RETURNING FROM VACATION. IT  
SEEMS CERTAIN THAT A TRIAL OF THOSE ARRESTED WOULD HAVE  
CAUSED THE AUTHORITIES NEW EMBARRASSMENT.

IT IS ALSO KNOWN THAT THE PRIMATE OF POLAND, STEFAN CARDINAL WYSZYNSKI, HAD URGED THE POLISH GOVERNMENT TO FREE THE DISSIDENTS. MANY OBSERVERS THINK HIS INTERVENTION MAY HAVE BEEN DECISIVE.

PROTESTS FROM ABROAD, LIKE THE LETTER SIGNED BY 140 U.S. WRITERS AND ACADEMICS RANGING FROM EDWARD ALBEE TO PROF. C. VANN WOODWARD, ARE ALSO BELIEVED TO HAVE INFLUENCED A DECISION THAT IMMEDIATELY IMPROVED POLAND'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD BEFORE THIS AUTUMN'S BELGRADE REVIEW CONFERENCE ON THE HELSINKI ACCORDS. PRELIMINARY TALKS FOR THE FALL MEETING ARE CURRENTLY UNDER WAY IN BELGRADE.  
END QUOTE. VANCE

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